(c) the cumulative amount collected through cess till March, 1999 and

(d) the amount collected in the year 1999-2000 through import duty on imported crude oil; and

(e) the amount disbursed so far to the Oil Industry Development Board after 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) Cess is collected at the rate of Rs. 900 per metric tonne on indigenous crude oil, except for the crude oil produced in the exploration blocks offered under the New Exploration and Licensing Policy (NELP) through competitive international bidding.

(b) At present crude oil is charged a basic customs duty of 15% *advalorem.* There is no additional duty of customs on crude oil. It is exempted from surcharge and special additional duty of customs. It is also exempted from the cess of Rs. 900 per metric tonne.

(e) The net cumulative amount of cess collected from 1974-1975 to 1998-99 is Rs. 33439 crores.

(d) The revised estimate of customs revenue from petroleum oils & oils obtained from bituminous minerals crude, for 1999-2000 is Rs. 3646.81 crores.

(e) No amount has been disbursed to the Oil Industry Development Board after 1992-93.

Opening of PCO/STD/ISD Booths in Himachal Pradesh

*615. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Miniser of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of PCOs/STD/ISDs functioning in Himachal Pradesh, District-wise;

(b) the number of applications pending for grant of PCO/STD/ ISD booths in Himachal Pradesh during the last two years, District-wise; and

(c) the reasons for not sanctioning such booths to the applicants?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) At present 2113 STD/ISD/PCOs are functioning in Himachal Pradesh. The district-wise information is given in the enclosed Statement *(See* below) Annexure. The registration of applications for allotment of PCOs is a continuous process. At present a total of 167 applications are pending in Himachal Pradesh for allotment of PCOs. The district-wise information is given in the Annexure. The applications are pending due to various reasons such as non-availability of spare capacity in the exchanges, inadequate and unreliable transmission media in the exchanges etc.

STATEMENT

Name of the	District	No. of PCO/ STD/ISD Functioning	No. of Applications Pending
1. Shimla		379	10
2. Kinnaur		28	3
3. Solan		251	5
4. Sirmour		95	11
5. Hamirpur		130	44
		110	37
6. Una		89	24
7. Bilaspur		454	0
8. Kangra		75	0
9. Chamba		252	0
10. Mandi		234	28
11. Kullu		16	5
12. Lahaul &	Spiti		
	TOTAL:	2113	167